

## MEETING RECORD

**NAME OF GROUP:** Urban Design Committee

**DATE, TIME AND**

**PLACE OF MEETING:** Wednesday, November 5, 2003, 3:00 p.m., Room 206, County-City Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 555 South 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln, Nebraska

**MEMBERS AND OTHERS**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

**Members:** JoAnne Kissel, Third World Oforah, Dennis Scheer, Gordon Scholz, Scott Sullivan, Kim Todd (Michael Eckert absent.)  
**Others:** Jeff Cole (Urban Development); Ed Zimmer and Michele Abendroth (Planning Department)

**STATED PURPOSE**

**OF THE MEETING:** Regular Meeting of the Urban Design Committee

Mr. Scheer called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.

### Approval of meeting notes of October 1, 2003

Ms. Kissel moved approval of the October 1, 2003 minutes, seconded by Mr. Sullivan. Kissel, Oforah, Scheer, Scholz, Sullivan, and Todd voting 'yes'; Eckert absent.

### Sidewalk café, Valentino's, 232 No. 13<sup>th</sup> Street

Mr. Zimmer stated that the new owners of the downtown Valentino's space are juggling between having space available for a sidewalk café and policing that area. The ordinance allows restaurants to put out furniture for non-exclusive use if they do not fence it. The Mexican restaurant, Chipotle, will have a full fence, Cold Stone Creamery is not moving forward with a sidewalk café, and Valentino's is just proposing furniture right now, but is considering putting in a minimal fence next year. The police department is comfortable with this as long as they can determine the boundaries. This is technically a sidewalk café, but there is an exemption in the sidewalk café ordinance for restaurants that only have food to-go as they are not required to have a fence.

Ms. Todd moved approval of the sidewalk café application for Valentino's, seconded by Mr. Scholz. Kissel, Oforah, Scheer, Scholz, Sullivan, and Todd voting 'yes'; Eckert absent.

### Outdoor dining and vending ordinance revisions

Mr. Zimmer noted that he believes the big concept in regard to these revisions is to put reflect clearly in the law what has been the practice in Lincoln—that we mean sidewalk cafés and not sidewalk beer gardens. The revised ordinance states that operators of sidewalk cafes must have a licensed kitchen, it must offer a full menu, and gross sales from the sale of alcohol can not exceed 50% of the gross sales of food and drink. There was also discussion about whether the kitchen has to be open exactly the same hours as the bar. The police department is okay with the term “generally” being added, as they do not mind if the kitchen closes at 11:00 p.m. and the bar is open later. The police department has a concern with the intense bar area and how much necessary sidewalk space is infringed upon.

Mr. Cole noted that the revised vendor cart ordinance has expanded the area from only downtown to

include both P and B3 zoned areas.

Mr. Scholz questioned section 14.50.050 of the ordinance, in particular the streetscape and urban design issues in relation to the Sidewalk Café Review Committee and the Urban Design Committee. Mr. Zimmer suggested a change to indicate that the Sidewalk Café Review Committee will review the *functional* urban design relationship of the streetscape, and the Urban Design Committee shall review the appropriateness of the *urban design aspect*.

Mr. Scheer asked if this Committee would put a sidewalk café application in jeopardy in terms of time constraints if there was not a quorum at a meeting. Mr. Zimmer stated that he feels that it would be appropriate to take the opinions of the present members as a vote is not required.

Mr. Cole stated that there will probably be a couple more rounds of revisions to the ordinance. Mr. Zimmer noted that he will update the Committee as necessary.

#### **Staff report/miscellaneous**

Mr. Zimmer stated that he has received a public art request from the Center for Great Plains Art to place a piece of artwork in the U Street planting area. The Committee did not voice any objections.

Mr. Zimmer noted that future agenda items will include an update on the Sunken Garden Master Plan and the Antelope Valley "Big T" bridge landscaping and abutment wall treatments.

There being no further business, Mr. Scheer adjourned the meeting at 4:09 p.m.